

P.S. You did quite right in  
taking examples out for  
the Gardens.

I like the *Mammillaria*  
I wish Dr. Parry could have  
sent 200 or 300!

M. vivipara (Haworth) &  
Opuntia rutila (Nutt) both  
seem to be still more desir-  
able species. J.B.

For K 18/11 mo. '73.

Dear Dr. Gray

The boxes are to hand.  
The *Polygonatum*s are in fine  
condition, I will give us a  
good supply. I cannot give  
a very good report of the  
others. Most of them were  
exceedingly "drawn" & blanched  
like the tenderest sea kale,  
so that our utmost skill &  
care will be required to save  
them through the winter.

I doubt whether the moisten-  
ing of the moss helped them  
much, as nearly the whole

of one kind (*Toumsondia*  
*sericea* I believe) were quite  
rotten on arrival - the snow  
being more than deep! 5 or 6  
of these may survive.

I hope that with great care  
a considerable proportion of  
the others may be saved. The  
*Prunella Parryi* are very  
fine & good.

I "grieve" most at Dr. Parry  
not having sent any *Eriochlo-*  
*um areoides*. The genus  
is a special favourite, & I  
looked upon it rather as the  
"gem of the lot". But I know  
that he was unavoidably late  
in the field, & trust he may be

able to obtain plenty (if seed)  
another year.

It was a great misfortune  
too that the *Phloxes* were  
dead. They were first class  
plants, & so is *Actinella*  
*grandiflora*. We have these  
coming on from seed, but  
they are, of course, slow in  
developing.

I await thy advice as to  
what I should remit for  
the *Polygonatum* &c. I think  
thou spoke of the collector of  
these being poor. If so I should  
wish to pay liberally even if  
it do not leave much "margin".

Thy frd sincerely  
(over) J. Backhouse